**SCC/2017/draft 3 /Decision COP5/10 on sustainable tourism**

**DECISIONS**

**Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (COP5)**

**DECISION COP5/10**

**Sustainable tourism**

**Article 9 of the Carpathian Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. [Welcomes the progress made in establishment of the Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform (CSTP) by signature of the memorandum by Romania and Ukraine, initiating the cooperation], *appreciates* the efforts made by the Parties directly involved in the process, and *encourages* all the Parties to actively participate in implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism to the Carpathian Convention (hereinafter Tourism Protocol) and the Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians, and further work on an agreement in line with the Joint Proposal of the Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform];
2. *Mandates* the Working Group on Sustainable Tourism to work on […]
3. *[Requests* the Working Group Tourism and the Secretariat to cooperate with CSTP in order to produce a Carpathian wide consolidated (draft) report on the implementation of the tourism protocol and its strategy to the next COP.
4. *Welcomes* the documentation of the process on the elaboration and adoption of the strategy, as well as its implementation until to date, which has been funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment and [*requests* Parties and the Secretariat] to make use of this publication and disseminate it through its channels.
5. *Appreciates* the contribution of Ecological Tourism in Europe, through funds of the German Ministry for the Environment, with producing a Set of Indicators for measuring the positive and negative effects of Tourism in the Carpathians and *invites* Parties and other stakeholders to implement the set of indicators in their monitoring systems.

*6. Requests* the Secretariat to continue, in collaboration with Parties and stakeholders, researching and applying for funds in order to foster the implementation of the tourism protocol and its strategy.]

 *Alternative to 3-6 above:*

*[Welcomes* cooperation with Ecological Tourism in Europe (ETE) and CEEweb for Biodiversity implementing the project *Support for the implementation of the Strategy for Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians*, and *appreciates* the financial support of the Federal Environment Agency (UBA) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, provided to ETE for this purpose;]

Alt.:

1. *2.*  *Welcomes* the Set of Indicators for measuring the positive and negative effects of Tourism in the Carpathians, developed within the same project, and invites the Working Group on Sustainable Tourism (hereinafter WG Tourism) to consider the Set of Indicators as a useful source for the implementation of Article 24 of the Tourism Protocol.*[Takes note of* / *appreciates]* the organization of the Workshop on the Implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism to the Carpathian Convention into the National Law on 12 – 13 December 2016 in Vienna, Austria, and *acknowledges* involvement of the ETE and the Secretariat in related preparations to the Workshop;
2. *Welcomes* the approval of the project CARPATHIAN TOURISM*: Cooperation of V4 Countries*, financed by the Visegrad Fund which aims at empowering local entrepreneurs to improve handicraft workshops as tourism services and to increase quality and visibility of other rural tourism initiatives, which contributes to the implementation of Article 11 of the Tourism Protocol;
3. *Appreciates* the activities undertaken by the Association of the Carpathian Euroregion Poland in the area of creating the Carpathia brand being the sign of the quality of the Carpathians, bringing together the best Carpathian products, attractions and services of the Carpathian nature, and the other efforts in the area of socio-economic development of the Carpathians, especially in the context of creating new cross-border tourism products and building a bridge of cooperation between the Carpathians and the Alps.